

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the above-mentioned Official Action in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 2-4 are now pending in the application, with Claims 2 and 3 being independent. Claims 1 and 5-11 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication that Claims 2-4 are allowed. Claims 2-4 have not been amended herein, thus remaining in condition for allowance.

Claims 1 and 5-11 were rejected §§ 102 and 103. Claims 1 and 5-11 have been cancelled herein, thus rendering these rejections moot. The foregoing actions have been taken without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter, and without conceding correctness of the rejections, but rather strictly to obtain an earlier allowance and to expedite issuance.

Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the above-noted Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowability are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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